

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Winthrop D. Childers et al.

Serial No.: 10/634,024

Filed: Aug. 4, 2003

Docket No.: 10971935-17

Title: INK DELIVERY SYSTEM ADAPTER

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Final Office Action mailed January 19, 2005, in which claims 39-67 were rejected. With this Response, independent claims 39 and 43 have been amended to further clarify that which is being claimed and claims 52-67 have been canceled without prejudice to expedite allowance of the remaining pending claims 39-51.

With this amendment Claims 39-51 are in condition for allowance.

Double Patenting

Claims 39-51 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 10-13, 15, 19, 22-24 and 29-30 of U.S. Patent No. 6,322,205 and claims 1, 2, 8, 13 and 18-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,619,789.

Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c) to overcome this rejection.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 43-51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As amended, independent Claim 49 recites:

A replacement source of signals for a printing system, the printing system having a receptacle for receiving a first ink supply, a controller which exchanges information with a memory device coupled to the first ink supply, and an ink supply inlet fluidically connected to a printhead, the replacement source of signals comprising:

an electrical signal source for exchanging information about a replacement ink supply with the controller, wherein unlike the first ink supply the replacement ink supply does not have a memory device coupled thereto; and

a connector for electrically connecting the replacement source of signals to the controller.

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Since the alleged unclear language has been removed from claims 49-51, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 39, 43, 52, 59, and 62 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hillman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,365,312).

Claims 3-51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bullock et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,912,156).

As amended, independent claim 39 is directed towards:

An emulator for use in a printing system, the printing system having a controller and being configured to receive an ink container missing a memory device coupled thereto, the emulator being configured to emulate the missing memory device and comprising:

an electrical signal source separate from and not coupled to the ink container for exchanging information with the controller; and

a flexible cable operatively coupled to the electrical signal source and configured to electrically connect to the controller.

Hillman et al. teach an ink container having a memory coupled thereto and as such clearly fail to disclose or otherwise suggest the claimed emulator having “an electrical signal source separate from and not coupled to the ink container for exchanging information with the controller”. Furthermore, Hillman et al. fail to disclose “a flexible cable operatively coupled to the electrical signal source and configured to electrically connect to the controller”.

Thus, for at least these reasons, independent claim 39 along with dependent claims 40-42 are patentable over Hillman et al.

Similarly, Bullock et al. disclose an ink container having a memory coupled thereto and as such clearly fail to disclose or otherwise suggest the claimed emulator having “an electrical signal source separate from and not coupled to the ink container for exchanging information with the controller”. Bullock et al. also fail to disclose “a flexible cable

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operatively coupled to the electrical signal source and configured to electrically connect to the controller”.

Thus, for at least these reasons, independent claim 39 along with dependent claims 40-42 are patentable over Bullock et al.

As amended, independent claim 43 is directed towards:

A replacement source of signals for a printing system, the printing system having a receptacle for receiving a first ink supply, a controller which exchanges information with a first memory device coupled to the first ink supply, and an ink supply inlet fluidically connected to a printhead, the replacement source of signals comprising:

an electrical signal source for exchanging information about a replacement ink supply with the controller, wherein unlike the first ink supply the replacement ink supply does not have a memory device coupled thereto; and

a connector for electrically connecting the replacement source of signals to the controller.

Hillman et al. clearly fail to disclose or otherwise suggest the replacement source of signals having “an electrical signal source for exchanging information about a replacement ink supply with the controller, wherein unlike the first ink supply the replacement ink supply does not have a memory device coupled thereto”.

Thus, for at least this reason, independent claim 43 along with dependent claims 44-51 are patentable over Hillman et al.

Bullock et al. also clearly fail to disclose or otherwise suggest the replacement source of signals having “an electrical signal source for exchanging information about a replacement ink supply with the controller, wherein unlike the first ink supply the replacement ink supply does not have a memory device coupled thereto”.

Thus, for at least this reason, independent claim 43 along with dependent claims 44-51 are patentable over Bullock et al.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C §102 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

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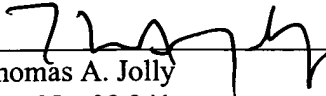
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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 39-51 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thomas A. Jolly
Reg. No. 39,241